



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:) Group Art Unit:
DRAKE et al.)
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned)
Filed: Herewith)
Atty. File No.: 4471-1-DIV-CON)
For: "METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR)
MINING HYDROCARBON-)
CONTAINING MATERIALS")
Express Mail Label: EV331287085US

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached Form PTO-1449 are being called to the attention of the Examiner.

Copies of the cited references:

Are enclosed herewith.

Are not enclosed, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.98(d), because the references were submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in prior pending application Serial No. 10/272,852 filed October 16, 2002, which is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. § 120.

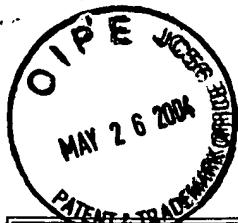
To the best of applicants' belief, the pertinence of the foreign-language references are believed to be summarized in the attached English abstracts and in the figures, although applicants do not necessarily vouch for the accuracy of the translation.

Examiner's attention is drawn to the following co-pending applications, copies of which have been or are being submitted:

Serial No. 10/272,852 filed October 16, 2002

Serial No. 09/797,886 filed March 5, 2001

Submission of the above information is not intended as an admission that any item is citable under the statutes or rules to support a rejection, that any item disclosed represents analogous art, or that those skilled in the art would refer to or recognize the pertinence of any reference without the benefit of hindsight, nor should an inference be drawn as to the pertinence of the references based on the order in which they are presented. Submission of this statement should not be taken as an indication that a search has been conducted, or that no better art exists.



SHEET 5 OF 5

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 4471-1-DIV-CON	SERIAL NO. Not Yet Assigned
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANT DRAKE et al.	
		FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP ART

84	Oil Sands Underground Mining, Inc., "A Private Sector Approach to Design/Build," presented at NAT 2002, 34 pages.
85	Ounanian et al.; "Development of an Extruded Tunnel Lining System" Chapter 81; 1981 <u>RETC Proceedings</u> Vol. 2; pps. 1333-1351.
86	Ozdemir et al.; 'Development of a Water Jet Assisted Drag Bit cutting Head for Coal Measure Rock" Chapter 41; <u>RETC Proceedings</u> , Vol. 2; 1983; pps. 701-718
87	Paine et al.; "Understanding hydrotransport: The key to Syncrude's success"; CIM Bulletin; Vol. 92; 1999; pps. 105-108.
88	Peer; "Giant rock TBM to drive access tunnels under ocean"; reprinted from Heavy Construction News; Sept. 19, 1983; 2 pgs.
89	Press Release; Slurries.wpd; Jan Czarnecki; 3 pages.
90	Richards et al., "Slurry Shield Tunnels on the Cairo Metro," 1997 RETC Proceedings, Chapter 44, pp. 709-733.
91	Rose, D., "Steel-Fiber-Reinforced-Shotcrete for Tunnels: An International Update," 1999 RETC Proceedings, pp. 525-536.
92	Sager, H., "Underpassing the Westerschelde by Implementing New Technologies," 1999 RETC Proceedings, pp. 927-938.
93	Stokes et al.; "Cutting head ventilation of a full face tunnel boring machine"; Cape Breton Coal Research Laboratory, CANMET, Sydney, Canada; pps. 305-311.
94	Sunburst Excavation - IN FOCUS; November 1993, 18-19, 22-23.
95	Uchiyama, S., "Twin TBM with Four Cutters for Subway Station (Roppongi Station in the Tokyo Metro Line 12)," 1999 RETC Proceedings, Chapter 37, pp. 665-674.
96	Wang et al.; "High Pressure Water Jet Assisted Tunnelling" Chapter 34; 1976 RETC Proceedings; pps. 649-676.
97	Wu et al., "Stress Analysis and Design of Tunnel Linings," Chapter 26, pp. 431-455.
98	Yoshidawa et al.; "A Study of Shield Tunnelling Machine (Part 1) - Soil Condition for Pressurized Slurry Shield to be Adapted-"; Translation Copy of Hitachi Zosen Technical Review; Vol. 42; No. 1-4; 1981; 38 pages.
99	Young et al.; "Full-scale Testing of the PCF Rock Excavation Method"; <u>VIII Australian Tunnelling Conference</u> ; Aug. 1993. Pps. 259-264.

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.	